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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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1. COUNTRY: Cuba
2. SUBJECT: (U) "ALPHA 66" Plans to Resume Attacks on Cuba
3. ISC NUMBER:
4. DATE OF INFORMATION: 13 January 1963
5. PLACE AND DATE OF ACQ: San Juan, Puerto Rico
14-22 January 1963
6. EVALUATION: SOURCE Documentary INFORMATION
7. SOURCE: Press and others
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9. DATE OF REPORT: 23 January 1963
10. NO. OF PAGES: Three
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12. ORIGINATOR: G2, Antilles Command, USARCARIB
Fort Brooke, Puerto Rico
13. PREPARED BY: V. Aguayo
V. AGUAYO, CIV ANALYST
14. APPROVING AUTHORITY: Henry E. Kelly
HENRY E. KELLY, LT COL, GS

15. SUMMARY:

(C) A translation of the main points covered by Antonio VECIANA, General Coordinator of "Operation ALPHA 66", in a broadcast over radio station WITA, San Juan, Puerto Rico, on 13 January 1963 are set forth. Briefly, VECIANA stated "ALPHA 66" determination to carry on a "war of liberation" in Cuba on its own initiative in 1963 because "US policy on the Cuban situation is not cooperative". He also outlined Fidel CASTRO's plans for action in 1963 as "reported by our clandestine operators in Cuba." A local press report of 17 January 1963 indicated that Eloy GUTIERREZ Menoyo, leader of the "Second Escambray Front" to which the ALPHA 66 is allied, had recently returned from a clandestine visit to his followers inside Cuba.

1. (C) A source who is knowledgeable of Cuban exile activities and organizations in Puerto Rico furnished on 14 January 1963 the text of a speech in the Spanish language broadcast by Antonio VECIANA (see Atch I) over radio station WITA (Radio El Imparcial) of San Juan, Puerto Rico, on 13 January 1963. Main points covered by VECIANA's address are translated as follows:

"Call to Arms"

"Now is the time for all Cubans to devote their energies to a plan that will culminate in the victory of the Christian and

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G2, USARCARIB (2 Atch)

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2 Atch:
1. (U) A Call to War.....
(Llamando a la Guerra....)
1 cy, 12 pages
2. (C) Biographic Information
on Antonio VECIANA Blanch,
1 cy, 1 page

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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ORIGINATOR G2, ANTCOMD,
USARCARIB, Ft. Brooke,
Puerto Rico

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democratic forces over the Cuban Communist regime. This plan is based on our historical struggle for freedom. After an exhaustive study, the following facts were revealed:

a. It is useless to demand aid from the United States because the US policy on the Cuban situation is not cooperative. We must decide not to leave the liberation of Cuba in the hands of foreigners since it is more our duty to liberate Cuba than theirs. We have to take action in order to see Cuba liberated because the Communist regime will never be overthrown by internal revolt. The decision open to Cubans has two alternatives: the decision to fight or the decision to submit to losing their country. We have chosen the alternative to fight for the ultimate liberation of Cuba, without considering the elements of time delay or resulting pain from this decision.

b. Reports from our clandestine operators in Cuba revealed the communist plans for Castro's action in 1963, which are as follows:

(1) To reach a rapprochement with the US Government through arbitration of the Mexican and Brazilian Governments. The Castro regime will assure that it will leave the Moscow orbit as a satellite and will convert Cuba into a nationalist socialist country similar to Yugoslavia.

(2) The first phase of the plan was the release of the Playa Giron prisoners. The next stage of the plan is to offer indemnities for US property and goods that were confiscated two years ago in Cuba. Payment will be made with sugar.

This plan is under consideration by 'pacifist' elements within the US Government. Castro's plan includes (a) amnesty to political prisoners, several of whom have already been released; and (b) to hold 'elections' at a propitious time, which will surely constitute a 'fixed election.'

c. The thesis of ALPHA 66 is to carry out the war of liberation of Cuba.

d. The plans of ALPHA 66 are:

(1) ALPHA 66 and the Second National Front of the Escambray have joined together with military equipment and the necessary men to initiate war.

(2) We are preparing to increase the attacks soon to initiate war on Cuban territory, which will lead to the ultimate downfall of the Castro regime.

(3) Even without material assistance from friendly governments, the struggle against international communism on Cuban soil will begin.

(4) Clandestine operators are in place to stage raids, sabotage and espionage with the general purpose to prepare the conditions for general insurrections.

(5) The aim of the commando activities is to continue harrassing the Castro Government, such as the raids on Caibarien, Isabela de Sagua and Juan Francisco. The raids are part of a carefully laid out plan seeking the liberation of Cuba.

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"Fidel Castro knows of our activities and is aware that this time the fight is against men dedicated to liberating Cuba at all costs. The end is just a matter of time. We call Cubans to unite in a struggle without animosities. Personal differences must be forgotten. The enemy is too powerful and our cause too beautiful to continue the envy and intrigues of political ambitions. Our motto should be War First and Debate Later. The plans, weapons and the necessary men for the emancipation of Cuba are ready to carry out their trust."

2. (U) An article printed in the 17 January 1963 edition of the San Juan, Puerto Rico English language daily THE SAN JUAN STAR quoted VECIANA as stating that Eloy GUTIERREZ Menoyo, leader of the Second Front of the Escambray organization, had been making secret visits to Cuba in November and December 1962 organizing underground activities. VECIANA said that resistance leaders in groups of two and three are being infiltrated into Cuba. According to him, GUTIERREZ Menoyo has been stationed at a secret Caribbean island base of the Escambray group since October 1962. VECIANA added that from this secret base they have been broadcasting to Cuba every night at 2200 hours and have been also landing equipment there. Members of the Escambray group, according to VECIANA, have held secret meetings with about 30 officials of the CASTRO régime who are ready to join a resistance movement.

(S) Comments: According to the source of VECIANA's speech, the information appearing in the speech was received from clandestine operators located in Cuba, and was transmitted through a clandestine communications system available to VECIANA and OPERATION ALPHA 66. In the opinion of the confidential source, VECIANA's statements in his speech, although slightly exaggerated and embellished, are valid. The confidential source is convinced that OPERATION ALPHA 66 has the resources and capabilities to carry out the "action" program of warfare on Cuban territory outlined in VECIANA's speech.

(S) In a statement dated 8 November 1962, the original OPERATION ALPHA 66 members announced VECIANA's "resignation" after his disclosure of his ties with the GUTIERREZ Menoyo group. Henceforth, the statement added, the group would be known as "Comandos L-66" to distinguish themselves from VECIANA who insisted in using the name of ALPHA 66.

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